

OPINION 1855

Agonus Bloch & Schneider, 1801 (Osteichthyes, Scorpaeniformes): conserved; and AGONIDAE Kirby, 1837 (Insecta, Coleoptera): spelling emended to AGONUMIDAE, so removing the homonymy with AGONIDAE Swainson, 1839 (Osteichthyes, Scorpaeniformes)

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Osteichthyes; Scorpaeniformes; Coleoptera; AGONIDAE; AGONUMIDAE; *Agonus*; *Agonum*.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary powers:
 - (a) the generic name *Aspidophorus* Lacépède, [1801] (Osteichthyes) is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;
 - (b) it is hereby ruled that for the purposes of Article 29 of the Code the stem of the generic name *Agonum* Bonelli, 1810 (Insecta) is AGONUM-.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *Agonus* Bloch & Schneider, 1801 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Tilesius in Pallas ([1814]) *Cottus cataphractus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Osteichthyes);
 - (b) *Agonum* Bonelli, 1810 (gender: neuter), type species by subsequent designation by Curtis (1827) *Carabus marginatus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Insecta).
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *cataphractus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Cottus cataphractus* (specific name of the type species of *Agonus* Bloch & Schneider, 1801) (Osteichthyes);
 - (b) *marginatus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Carabus marginatus* (specific name of the type species of *Agonum* Bonelli, 1810) (Insecta).
- (4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology:
 - (a) AGONIDAE Swainson, 1839, type genus *Agonus* Bloch & Schneider, 1801 (Osteichthyes);
 - (b) AGONUMIDAE Kirby, 1837, type genus *Agonum* Bonelli, 1810 (spelling emended by the ruling in (1)(b) above) (Insecta).
- (5) The name *Aspidophorus* Lacépède, [1801] (Osteichthyes) is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology, as suppressed in (1)(a) above.
- (6) The name AGONIDAE Kirby, 1837 (Insecta) is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology (spelling emended to AGONUMIDAE in (1)(b) above).

History of Case 2897

An application for the conservation of the generic name *Agonus* Bloch & Schneider, 1801, and for the removal of the homonymy between the family-group

names based on *Agonus* Bloch & Schneider, 1801 (Osteichthyes) and *Agonum* Bonelli, 1810 (Insecta), was received from Dr B.A. Sheiko (Kamchatka Institute of Ecology, Russian Academy of Sciences, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia) on 10 June 1993. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 52: 57–60 (March 1995). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 1996 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 52: 59. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 1996 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 21: Bayer, Bock, Bouchet, Cocks, Corliss, Hahn, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli (part), Nielsen, Nye, Savage, Schuster, Starobogatov, Štys, Trjapitzin

Negative votes — 2: Dupuis and Lehtinen.

No vote was received from Halvorsen.

Cogger and Ride were on leave of absence.

Dupuis commented that he was opposed to the conservation of the name for the monospecific genus *Agonus* Bloch & Schneider, 1801, which was of uncertain date and, under the Code, a junior synonym. Lehtinen commented: 'The coleopteran family-group name is earlier than the homonymous fish family-group name, while both relate to large and well-known groups. The information given in para. 8 of the application on the use of AGONINI Kirby, 1837 in Coleoptera is misleading. The name has recently been used in the European handbook *Die Käfer Mitteleuropas* by Klausnitzer (1991), as well as in the earlier North American handbook by Hatch (1953). The homonymy could have been avoided by using a family-group name based on the name *Aspidophorus* Lacépède, [1801], or by using the stem AGONUS- for the junior family-group name for the fishes'. Minelli voted for the conservation of the generic name *Agonus* Bloch & Schneider, 1801 but not for removing the homonymy between the coleopteran and fish family-group names.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists and Official Indexes by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

AGONIDAE Kirby, 1837, in Richardson, J., Swainson, W. & Kirby, W. (Eds.), *Fauna Boreali-Americana* ..., part 4, p. 23 (a now incorrect original spelling of AGONUMIDAE).

AGONIDAE Swainson, 1839, *The natural history of fishes, amphibians, and reptiles or monocardian animals*, vol. 2, p. 181.

Agonum Bonelli, 1810. Observations entomologiques, Première partie. Tabula Synoptica exhibens genera Carabiorum in Sectiones et Stirpes disposita. (Text published, 1810. in *Mémoires de l'Académie Impériale des Sciences, Littérature et Beaux-Arts de Turin*, 18: 21–78).

AGONUMIDAE Kirby, 1837, in Richardson, J., Swainson, W. & Kirby, W. (Eds.), *Fauna Boreali-Americana* ..., part 4, p. 23 (spelled as AGONIDAE, now incorrect).

Agonus Bloch & Schneider, 1801, *M.E. Blochii* ... *Systema Ichthyologiae iconibus ex illustratum. Post obitum auctoris opus inchoatum absolvit, correxit, interpolavit J. Gottlob Schneider* ..., vol. 1, p. 104.

Aspidophorus Lacépède, [1801], *Histoire naturelle des poissons*, vol. 3, p. 221.

cataphractus, *Cottus*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 264.

marginatus, *Carabus*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 416.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Cottus cataphractus* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of the nominal genus *Agonus* Bloch & Schneider, 1801:

Tilesius von Tilenau, W.G. [1814]. In Pallas, P.S., *Zoographia Rosso-Asiatica*, vol. 3, p. 109, footnote.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Carabus marginatus* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of the nominal genus *Agonum* Bonelli, 1810:

Curtis, J. 1827. *British entomology ...*, vol. 4, text to pl. 183.